A SOCIOLINGUISTIC ANALYSIS
OF
THE SELECTED CINEMATIC ADAPTATION OF LITERARY WORKS IN INDIAN SETTING

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Introduction

The purpose of the present research is to study the selected cinematic adaptation of literature in English into Hindi films by applying the principles of socio-linguistics. Since Socio-linguistics is the study of language in relation to its society, the selected films will be examined against the backdrop of the Indian socio-cultural and linguistic context existing at the time when these novels were being written and the films were released.

Hudson defines sociolinguistics as 'the study of language in relation to the society' (1996). Language is the medium to understand the social networks of the society. This is applicable to the society as awhole and also to the individual units of the society. The language at any level informs the relation of one to the another. Culture can be reflected in the language of the individual. This research is an attempt to examine, study and explore various socio-cultural factors. This can also help to understand the social structure of the society. The **four** movies selected for the present research are *Guide*, *The Jungle Book*, *Three Idiots* and *Train to Pakistan*. These four movies are based on the literary work by Indian Writers in English. R.K.Narayan is an important writer from the first generation of Indian writers writing into English. Rudyard Kipling was the Indian born British writer but the setting of many of his works is India. Chetan Bhagat is contemporary author and columnist from New Delhi. Khushwant Singh was a lawyer, author, diplomat, journalist and Politian. He was born in North India, so has experienced the partition. He is mainly a partition novelist. This is an attempt to discover the socio-cultural reality in various ages taking into account the vital aspects of socio-linguistics and then the changes made in the movies according to the time span of the release of the movie.

Aims and Objectives

Following are the aims and objectives of the present study:

1. To examine and analyze the sociolinguistic aspects of the selected movies in Indian setting.

2. To investigate the effects of social and regional dialects in selected novels and their adaptation in regional language.

3. To highlight the nature of the characters which makeaware of the social situation in which the film and novel is based on.

4. To critically analyze the main characters against their socio- cultural background.

5. To examine and emphasize the use of language in general and the bilingualism in particular.

6. To study critically the sociolects and idiolects of the characters taking into account the socio-cultural factors.

7. To shed light on translation of the novels while transformation in another language.

8. To study code mixing and code-switching strategies used by the characters.

9. To explicate the address terms, blessings, curses, honorific tags and greetings in the Indian context.

10. To throw light on the nature of language content with the help of the conversations of the characters.

11. To take into consideration the aspects of film adaptation like expansion, condensation and degression.

Hypothesis

Since the novels deal with the Indian setting, the sociolinguistic study will help to understand the socio-cultural aspects in India of that specific age. Moreover, the sociolinguistic study makes the readers and film watchers aware of the faults and demerits of their lives expressed through the peculiar use of Indian setting. In addition, the attitudes used by the characters of the film reveal the socio-cultural dimensions. Since the sociolinguistic approach is an effective tool to reveal the social nature of the characters, the present study highlights the peculiar use of language by the novelist and its transformations by the dialogue writers in the film. This is an interdisciplinary study which takes into account translation studies, film adaption studies with the sociolinguistics approach.

Scope and Limitations

The selected novels are unique as far as the linguistic experiment is concerned. The novels are adapted into the films as the Indian film industry is the most important industry in the world. Novels in English transformed into the Hindi films are replete with examples of code mixing and code switching. As the characters come from different linguistic background, language content is bound to take place as a result of which borrowing of words, phrases, slang expressions are seen interspersed in the Hindi films. The following cinematic adaptations have been selected for this research proposal:

1. The Jungle Book (2018)

2. Three Idiots (2009)

3. Guide (1965)

4. Train to Pakistan (1999)

The novels and collection of stories on which the films are based on are as follows:

1. *The Jungle Book*(1894) by Rudyard Kipling1894

2. *Five Point Someone*(2004) by Chetan Bhagat

3. *The Guide* (1958) by R.K. Narayan.

4. *Train to Pakistan* (1954) by Khushwant Singh.

The sociolinguistic interpretation of these movies and novels will definitely help the viewers and readers to explicate the various dimensions and implications of the attitude of Indian society. This will also make the Indian audience aware, interested and open in the new area of literature written in English which is no more a foreign language.

Methodology and Techniques

Since the research is applied in nature, sociolinguistic approach will be used to analyze the selected films. The present study analyses the language, structure, style, and socio-cultural nuances since the movies under consideration reflect Indian culture. It is interesting to observe how language operates in the society. The study of language in relation to society has been the focus of the research. Therefore, the researcher will categorically select the dialogues from the movies and the conversations and analyze them from the point of view of sociolinguistics. The modes of address, addressee-addresser relationship, kinship terms, greetings, blessings, markers of cooperative principle and politeness principle, sociolinguistic turn taking, syntactical deviations, foregrounding, honorific terms, title tags, visual mode of communication, diminutive expressions, self-humbling, abusive expressions, code mixing and code switching, some aspects from translations studies and film adaption studies will be studied against the backdrop of Indian socio-cultural aspects. The process of nativization or acculturation will be taken into account while making the analysis.

Rationale and Significance of the Study

The present study is an attempt to apply the sociolinguistic approach to the selected literary works from Indian setting. Interpretation and analysis of the literary work is based on the society and its language. The society is subject to change constantly so the changes are reflected in the literature too. In the same sense when the literature is transformed into motion pictures there is change in the language according to the society.

Sociolinguistic approach is one of the effective tools to analyze and interpret literature especially fictional works for there is an inherent relationship between language and society. Since social changes take place in society constantly, literature is bound to reflect them with the help of language. Therefore, it is through language a writer tries to depict the condition of the society. As literature is a social product, it studies the social system in which it is created. This study is an attempt to add a new link to the chain of research work done on sociolinguistic approach in particular.

The writers make a linguistic experiment while writing the novels. The use of typical expressions can be studied from the sociolinguistic point of view. The characters are from different backgrounds. They are bound to make use of the language according to their background. The dialect is one of the important features of the language and has associations with an individual, social class and the regional impact. Idiolects and sociolects are worth studying from the sociolinguistic point of view. In this scene the literature in English is transformed into movies in Hindi. The effect of translation can also be taken into consideration.

The sociolinguistic approach increases the interest in movies and excitement in the literature.

The pleasure of watching movie in the regional language increases the interest in English novel by heartening the readers to unveil different layers of meaning. The cinematic adaptations of the novels are well-known works of the writers. They make a linguistic experiment against the backdrop of the social reality existed in his times. The use of language made by the characters of the films is remarkable. Therefore, the utterances of the characters are worth studying from socio-linguistic point of view. One who watches the film is made aware of the socio-cultural aspect of the life. It intensifies the ability to perceive the intended meaning, interpret and appreciate the fictional works in general and films in particular.

The rationale of the present research is to fill the lacuna and provide anappropriate explanation for understanding the world-famous literature and their cinematic adaptation through sociolinguistic analysis.

Pedagogical Implications

- Sociolinguistic study will make the students aware of the socio-cultural and linguistic aspects prevailing at the time in which the novel is set.
- Many Universities in India have English and American novels in the syllabus of graduation. Film adaptation in the regional language enable a comparative eye of the society's culture in the literary work and one own's culture.
- This study will result in students being interested in the variations done by the writers writing in the same medium (language) but reflect different socio-cultural aspects.
- Teachers can definitely give an example from language to show the state of the society.
- Translation studies will help in the comparison of both the languages.

Plan of Research

The proposed plan of research or tentative chapterization will be as follows:

Chapter One will be an introduction. In this chapter, the statement of the aims and objectives will be stated. Scope and limitations as well as significance of this research will be highlighted. The tool used for analysis will be spelt out.

Chapter Two will be devoted to the theoretical framework. It will thoroughly discuss the main concepts related to sociolinguistics. The theory of translation studies and film adaptation studies will be taken into consideration. The chapter also will explore the review of the related research.

Chapter Three will be analysis of the film Guide and the text *Guide*from the Sociolinguistic point of view.

Chapter Four will be on the sociolinguistic analysis of the film Train to Pakistan and the text*Train to Pakistan*.

Chapter Five will focus on the *The Jungle Book*as a work of art and a movie considering the sociolinguistic factors.

Chapter Six is planned to be the sociolinguistic study of the film Three Idiots and its literary text, *Five Point Someone*.

Chapter Seven is the conclusion, which will summarize the findings and effects of adaptation on the audience. Significance and its pedagogical implications will be highlighted in this chapter. Towards the end of the chapter indications for further study in this area will be given.

This is an interdisciplinary research and no such work is done earlier. The sociolinguistic perspective is applied to the novels and films which are adaptations of novels in English. Hence, the research has a raison d'etre that this will broaden the horizons of the sociolinguistic study.

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